10/77

OCTOBER
EDITION

The Spark Gap

VOL III NO X

WIAHC WA1AHC

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

Ohmygosh! Having just returned from the New England ARRL Convention in Hartford, I find that it is past due time that I get this edition of the Spark Gap out. Boy, was September a busy month at this QTH.

To begin with, this year there were a few awards that were made for club recognition, one being an award for the best of the club newspapers. There are three categories to this award, clubs with 30 members or less, from 30 to 100 members and finally clubs with over 100 members. We fall into the latter category and though we didn't win the award, (much to our disappointment), we did come in second and got a Certificate of Merit for our efforts. It will be something to shoot for at the next ARRL Convention. The winner in our class was the QRA news over in Malden. Our congratulations to them are in order.

So, after a weekend of eye-balling, taking in those seminars most interesting to each personal interest, plus the extra curricular activities of conventions, here we are, ready to go again. (I think!) Anyway, it was a lot of fun and next year the convention will tentatively be out in Boxborough, Mass., so if you have never been to a convention, keep this one open so you can plan to attend and see what goes on at one. The date will be announced by the ARRL in good time.

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HAIL TO HEINRICH HERTZ:

When Heinrich Hertz completed his famous experiments in Frankfort, Germany in 1887-88, he finished his notes, folded his books, put his equipment on the top shelf and moved on to his next project he had no idea of the mighty force he had loosed on humanity. He was long on education but a bit short on vision.

Marconi, on the other hand, could see a need for such a device. So he took Hertz's oscillator, a Frenchman's detector(Branley coherer) and managed to get his signals out of the back yard. Marconi was soon covering dozens of miles, then ship-to-shore (which was his objective to begin with) and so on.

There soon were dozens of people with sharp pencils and sliderules working with the oscillator - hundreds of miles were being covered. People such as Sir Oliver Lodge gave us tuned circuits; Reginald Fessenden gave us the first continuous wave transmitter. Lee De Forest gave us the real'piece de resistance' in the three element vacuum tube which is not only a detector, but an amplifier and a generator as well. (After a seven year fight in the courts he got credit for it.)

G.W. Pickard brought us the first solid state detector, our old familiar galena crystal and other minerals to rectify high frequencies. Heissing gave us our first system of plate modulation, the constant current system. Thus radiotelephony became practical. Armstrong created the first feed-back regenerative receiver, later the famous super-heterodyne principle, and still later he originated frequency modulation.

There were other hundreds in addition to those pioneers working on different angles which included amateur radio and high frequency operation. Much sleep was lost, but much was accomplished.

The sad part of that all, the hard work of the individuals who made all this possible, has been forgotten. The man with the idiot box paid his money, and it had better be worth it and work. Ask the soul yapping on CB who Reginald Fessenden or Heinrich Hertz were and he will tell you he hasn't kept up on the latest rock singers. (from HAM SHACK GOSSIP).

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:
October 6
October 20 both at 7:30PM!
Intermediate Bldg., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE

FOR SALE: GE Progline 2 mtr rig. It puts out 25 watts on 5 channels and makes an excellent base or repeater rig. It is in excellent condition and has the crystals for 52/52, 04/64, 22/82, 07/67 and 148.41/148.41 installed and peaked. Also has an extra 50 watt power supply and complete manual. $75.00. Bob K1ZL 785-1423

FOR SALE: Teletype 32 ASR in mint condition, recently professionally overhauled, oiled and adjusted, with manual and 30 day warranty on repairs. $500.00 pick up only. Call Bob K1ZL 785 1423.

SWAP a pair of 12" triaxial speakers for a GOOD Novice Rig. WB1BVB 235-5244

CLEARING THE AIR

ARRL BULLETINS:
Official ARRL Bulletin NR 669-Sept. 15, 1977 BT The FCC has issued a call for volunteer examiners especially in the New England states, to administer technician and higher examinations to physically disabled amateur applicants. Volunteer examiners must be at least 18 years old and hold a General Class or higher license. Amateurs willing to help, even on an occasional basis, should provice their nearest FCC Field Office with the following information: age, class of license, license expiration date, call sign, address and signature. Please indicate the general area in which you can administer exams. AR

OFB NR 671 Sept. 22, 1977 BT

On September 21, 1977 the FCC acted on Docket 21033, repeater rule simplification. Effective immediately no new applications for new repeater, auxiliary link, and control station licenses will be accepted. The following are also effective November 4, 1977. Distinct licenses for repeaters, auxiliary link, and control stations will be eliminated. These modes of operation will become privileges inherent in all individual primary licenses and club station licenses. This means that distinctive WR prefixes for repeaters are being abolished. However, present repeater, auxiliary link, and control station licenses remain in effect until expiration, at which time they will be renewable. Also, applications for repeater station licenses now on file will be dismissed without action. Portable and mobile operation of auxiliary link stations has been approved. In addition to the present repeater subbands the following frequencies have been made available for repeater use, 144.5-145.5 MHz, 220 MHz and up, except for 435-438 MHz. Technician class licensees have been granted additional privileges at 144.5-145 MHz so that they may use the newly created repeater subband on two meters. This gives Technicians privileges on 144.5-148 MHz in all on two meters. The identification interval for repeaters has been extended to at least once each 10 minutes. Stations operating in the repeater mode shall identify either by phone by adding the word repeater after the primary call sign, or by cw by following the primary call with /RPT. Stations operating in the auxiliary link mode (or controle mode - the control function has been combined with that of auxiliary link) shall identify either by phone by appending the word auxiliary after the primary call, or by cw by including /AUX after the primary call. Transmissions from open access automatically controlled repeaters need no longer be monitored or recorded. There was no action taken on the establishment of priorities for frequency use, on modifications of the present effective radiated power versus height above average terrain requirements, or on the elimination of the requirement that a record of third party traffic must be maintained in the log of a repeater station, or of a station operating in the repeater mode. AR

BULLETIN...Cont'd.

"New Tickets"

Ed Jansson recently sent in his dues all the way from Florida where he now is living. Ed was WA1UTJ and was quite active in all club activities. Anyway, he is now an Advanced ticket holder and goes by the call, WD4DTC. Congratulations ED, and we hope to be working you from your home QTH.

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, JAMES W. HATHERLEY

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS SOLE PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, F.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUATE TO THE SPARK GAP AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION AND ENCOURAGED PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY-$5.00. CLUB YEAR RUNNS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - JUNE 30. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY,
324 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS 02181

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UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Oct. 8 & 9: CB & Ham Hamboree at Simons Park, Rte. 9, Shrewsbury, Mass.

Oct. 9: MMRA Auction, Stoughton High School, Pearl St., Stoughton, Ma. 1-5

Oct. 22: QRA Auction, St. Joseph Hall, Wakefield, Mass. 12-5

Nov. 19: Honeywell Auction, Concord Rd., exit off Rte 3. Town? inquire.

Oct. thru May: Horsetraders Net on 3940 Khz from 4-6 PM every Sunday.

Gentlemen, if you know of any other upcoming activities like the above, please let us know so we can update this section for you. Thanks. de Ray, N1GW
ex-WA1MRJ

Middlesex Radio Club Auction...Day after Thanksgiving. Details later.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday, October 15th-the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society will embark on its annual visit to the American Radio Relay League Headquarters in Newington, Conn.

The ARRL was chartered in the early 1900's as a non-profit organization in order to coordinate the efforts of early traffic handlers and provide a rallying point for development and training of ham radio operators. Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW was perhaps the most active proponent of amateur radio in these years and it is no exaggeration that, without his persistance, the amateur radio service as we know it, would not exist. For example, ham radio communications were blacked out by Uncle Sam during World War One. Maxim and his colleagues managed to convince a reluctant Congress to reinstate ham radio after 1919.

The ARRL has taken over where Maxim left off. We can thank League officials for procuring most of our HF bands, through their diligence at international frequency conferences. The League has grown a little since 1914: it is now the largest organization of its kind in the world.

The ARRL's physical plant is impressive. We will tour the the layout and editing facilities of QST as well as other publications of the League. We will visit the electronic laboratory where all thos neat little projects you've always wanted to build, are subjected to the "smoke test" prior to approval (and yes, you'll be tempted to let your hand slip surreptitiously into their copious parts bins). There will be an opportunity to ask questions about the Communications Dept, and stock up on any operating aids/contest forms that you desire. The recently completed "new" wing including employee cafeteria and radio archives will be open for viewing. Last, but not least, W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, will be available for use by those who can produce their ORIGINAL primary operator's license. (not a photocopy).

Sign up on the bulletin board at the club or drop a line so that transportation can be arranged in advance. If you plan to drive down, indicate how many passengers you can take in your car. There will be at least partial reimbursement for fuel costs, courtesy of W.A.R.S. We will leave

ACTIVITIES...Cont'd

the club at 9 AM sharp and return by 6 PM. Hope to see you there.

We now have a station QSL manager for the club station. It is Dave Curry, who goes by the call WA1TAK. We now have the QSL cards for the stations worked by the club station. Eventually we can expect to see our clubs walls adorned with the incoming QSL cards.

We now have a novice net going every Sunday night at 2030 hours local time and all are invited to check in. The frequency is 21,120 Khz. This is an excellent opportunity for you fellows to acquaint yourselves with traffic handling and also build up your code speed at the same time. Once the bugs are ironed out, we hope to have code practice before the net but for the present, just a novice slow speed net to start with. We hope to see many people QNI.(check in to net). To make this net effective, if you would send a radio message to a distant relative or friend just to say hello to him by ham radio, you will be that much better off. We do have that annual message fair at the Natick Mall and knowledge of how a net works can prove valuable to you. In net traffic we use 'Q' signals, usually the QN series that are printed on the pink printout supplied by the ARRL. We do have a limited supply of these at the club. It would also be helpful to you to purchase a copy of the ARRL manual entitled "The Radio Amateurs Operating Manual and read about net proceedures. At a future meeting at the club, we hope to have a seminar on this very subject. So, regardless of how fast or how slow you are on CW, we would like to see you check into the net whenever possible.

Being an ARRL affiliated club, we do get a bit of a break for all you guys who are renewing your membership to the ARRL or wanting to join it for the first time. The dues is $12.00 per year but if you will send your check for this amount to the club, we will forward our own check and keep $1.50 of this money for the club treasury. This money will be used to buy publications for the club library such as the Handbook, Operating Manual, etc., so your cooperation here will be appreciated.

For traffic interested people, there is the Eastern Mass/Rhode Island (EMRI SS NET) slow speed net that meets on 3715 Khz on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 6:15 PM local time. If you dont want to check into the net, at least listen and you can get the hang of how a traffic net works. Average speed is about 10 WPM.

education corner

Students who were in the Novice class over the summer have (or should have), received their tickets by now. I have only a partial list, so my apologies to anyone whom I've left out. Congratulations to Larry Heine, WB1FCW, Madeline Heine, WB1FCX Russ Read, WB1FDB, Adrian Peterson, WB1FDA, David W. Farrington, WB1FCN, Anthony Badessa, WB1FCP, Anthony Badessa Jr. WB1FGG, and Lisa Badessa, WB1FGH. Those of you who have received a call but have not told me, please let me know so I can keep our records up to date. Thanks.

C.K. Wiles, WA1RGA

There was a recent article in Ham Radio Report dealing with call signs and their use. The FCC still requires a ham to address another station or net when calling that station and when clearing with that station. The proper procedure is to say WB1ABC this is WB1XYZ and not just "this is WB1XYZ. Likewise, WB1XYZ signing clear is not good enough, you should say WB1ABC this is WB1XYZ signing clear. This make take a little more effort on your part but it can save you a letter from the FCC. CW procedure would be similar except you use DE instead of THIS IS. and CL for CLEAR.

IDEAS NEEDED:

Club members needn't be reminded that we are up to our hips in activities through December and it should be that way.

If you will note your club calendars, you will see a veritable lack of club activities during the months of January, February and March.

Why? Because, quite frankly, we have run out of ideas, or, more precisely, we have got our own ideas but we want to know what YOU think. By way of analogy, the executive committee is not a perpetual motion machine; the pendulum needs a push now and then.

EDUCATION CORNER..CONT'D

So, all you creative "pendulum pushers" out there who think that your input means ttle or nothing, couldn't be further from the truth. Dont forget, many a useful idea has come from one small thought.

So, all this means, let's see what we can do together for the winter activities, be it a tour, field trip, banquet, etc., and I promise that your suggestions will be most welcome. de WA1PQY, Bill Downing.

ACTIVITIES

Wellesley's Ninth Annual Veteran's Day Parade will be held on Sunday, October 30th at 1:00 PM. As you know, the Society, in conjunction with Wellesley Civil Defense has provided radio communications for this parade for the past 9 years. This is a most important event for our Society to take part in.

We will need about 7 operators with two meter FM equipment for either 52 direct or 96/36 repeater. We will need a Net Control at the Wellesley Hills Library, and about 6 stations stationed along the parade route. In case of rain, the parade will be cancelled about 4 hours before the scheduled start. The parade will not be rescheduled. More on this later but meanwhile, put the above date on your Amateur Radio Calendar. de Walt Lenk, K1YTY

Dues Dues Dues...

JUST a reminder about dues. If you haven't sent it in yet, please give it consideration. If you need a new form of application because you misplaced the one mailed you, let us know and we will oblige. At this writing we have about 65% of the club renewed. The fee is still only five bucks and if more than one member in the same family, the additional family members can be enrolled for the token amount of only two bucks each.

DID YOU KNOW that the ARRL now has an insurance policy to cover loss of your equipment? It is all spelled out in the September 1977 edition on Page 58. Read up on it, you may like it.

QSY PLEASE, de WITKZ

DXing On Novice 15

Years ago when 15 meters got assigned to Amateur Radio and 100 khz of that band was opened to the Novice Class, it greatly facilitated getting on the air for the Novice. Despite the fact that you may be very well equipped to terms of your rig, etc., putting up an antenna might present problems either because of monetary or space limitations. A simple dipole for 15 meters can provide you with hours of fun, plenty of contacts and challenging DX.

If you can find a couple of objects 25 feet or so apart, between chimneys, buildings or what have you, obtain an inexpensive center insulator, a couple of end insulators, about 25' of wire, some nylon line, coaxial cable and with about an hour of work, you should be ready to tune up and grab off that first qso.

In regard to the first QSO, relax! (It is easier said than done, but remember, we put our pants on one leg at a time). Don't hesitate to let it be known that it's your first QSO. If necessary, tell your contact to slow down (QRS ABT 7 WPM) or to repeat each word twice(QSZ). Being someone's first QSO can be an enjoyable experience for the old-timer too.

OK, great, you've got that first QSO under your belt. You undoubtedly have been in ham radio shacks and the QSL cards hanging on the wall impressed you, right? In order to take on the appearance of an old pro, at least to the unititiated, the idea is to decorate your wall with your accomplishments. Fine, go get them for the name of the game is to get on the air. Don't forget to furnish your full QTH. Once you have your confidence, it's time to give some serious thought to foreign DXing, so stay right on 15 meters. Where do you start?

By this time you should have gained some insight as to when the band is open. If its completely closed, only local QSO's via ground waves are possible. At other times the band may be open up to only 750 or 1000 miles. Ideally, you must keep your ear tuned for the period when the band is wide open. The propogation information furnished each month in QST or

QSY PLEASE...Cont'd.

Ham Horizons can be extremely helpful in determining the "when" and "where to" for DXing.

There is one prerequisite to successful DXing and that is patience. If you really want those foreign QSO's; simply, it involves taking the time to tune the Novice Band very slowly, starting at the lower end, and then listen, listen and listen. I find that most foreign stations operate in the lower portion of the band usually below 21.135 Khz, but don't overlook the higher portion of the band if the lower portion is non productive.

It isn't likely you will hear a DX station sending CQ unless you are lucky enough to catch him when he first goes on the air. After that competition increases inasmuch as others have heard him in a QSO and they're standing by awaiting the appropriate moment to give him a call.

The first clue to identifying a foreign ham is his speed. Usually they send in the range of 13 WPM with a good fist. This isn't to say that novices don't have good fists. They do, many of them. However, the foreign ham usually has been in the game longer, hence his sending is rhythmic with proper spacing between both letter and words, that is the equivalent of about one dash between letters and two between words. As for yourself, don't try to send too fast. Concentrate on being rhythmic. Another clue is the lack of punctuation; that is, periods or commas. Generally they separate thoughts with the dash but with four dots instead of three (-.....-). Of course, there is no better clue than to copy the QTH. Foreign hams will give only their city as opposed to our need to also give the state. In any event, copying an entire QSO and obtaining the call sign will provide positive identification.

OK, so you've got one. Perhaps it's Bill, CN8CW in Rabat, Morocco. Because of skip you may hear Bill loud and clear. On the other hand, he may be on with someone in the states or elsewhere who you can't hear. But stay camped on his frequency. If you hear Bill give the SK, don't call him since it is likely his contact is transmitting the final. Have patience and listen. He may come back with a brief final closing, or respond to the final SK. Once he clears, go after him. If he does not respond to anyone, call again. If he responds to someone else, continue to listen as DX QSO's are inclined to be of short duration. Patience will pay off.

Once you have made contact, recognize that the party contacted may have limited capabilities in English, therefore the QSO may be brief. His initial transmission may be similar to the following: "W1MXI DE CN8CW TNX FER CALL DR OM UR RST IS 569 NAME IS BILL QTH IS RABAT SO HW? AR W1MXI DE CN8CW KN

His next transmission may be along the lines of the following: W1MXI DE CN8CW R R TNX DR BOB FER FB QSO PSE QSL BURO ES WILL QSL SURE HPE CUAGN GUD LUCK ES 73 AR W1MXI DE CN8CW SK You should then close off the QSO by being brief as your new DX friend may wish to take advantage of the open band time in order to obtain as many DX contacts as possible in what may be a very limited open period.

There are going to be many frustrating moments. For example, I recently had a nice QSO going with Venezuela, but someone nearby (groundwave) kept Cqing DX each time the Venezuelan transmitted. I missed 75% of what was sent and my CQing friend missed the opportunity to pick up a DX into Venezuela. It is always good practice to clear the frequency first to see if it is occupied. This can be done by sending a ditdit two times and then listen to any possible response. You may also send the 'Q' signal QRL (Are you busy) and if no reply, send out your CQ knowing you have qrm'ed no other station.

Nevertheless, the rewards are most gratifying . For example, in late June and early July, I managed to QSO the Canal Zone, Colombia, Brazil, Venezuela, Italy, France, England, West Germany, Poland and Morocco, and some of these countries more than once. No big deal, however, for there are novices operating solely on novice 15 whose DXing accomplishments make mine look like childs play.

By the way, a good receiver or transceiver with excellent sensitivity enhances your chances of pulling in the DXer. My rig, the Heathkit HW-101, as well as most transceivers on the market, are capable of pulling your DXing needs most adequately. It is up to you to match your good rig with a good radiator (antenna). A beam would be nice to have, but my 15 meter dipole has enabled me to QSO both Europe and South America with RST reports averaging 569.

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QSY PLEASE...Cont'd

Being a good listener is the name of the game for successful DXing. Have fun & good luck in obtaining those foreign QSL cards.

de Bob Young, W1MXI AR

CLEARING THE AIR

Gentlemen; In view of the Certificate of Merit we received from the ARRL, it brings out the point how important the Spark Gap is to keep the members informed on most things. In order to do this and do it properly, we do need you to submit in articles of interest, news of yourself or other hams, technical hints and kinks, equipment you wish to sell or are looking for, etc. Just drop a note in the mail to the Editor, Jim Hatherley, 46 Hobson St., Brighton, Mass. 02135 and it will get into the 'Gap'. Normally we go to press around the middle of the month so be guided accordingly and let's hear from you. We would like to walk off with the best newspaper of all the clubs in the New England area at next years convention. To do this, we have to do a better job and this means we do need your help to make it so.

As of this writing, both a novice and general class is in progress. The Novice is being conducted on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM under the guidance of Dave Smith, K1BSO, and the General class under the combined guidance of Dave Goldman, WA1YSW Bob Rudko, W1HSS and Mike Adlerstein, K1FB. Though having received no special report, I understand that there are quite a few people taking advantage of their generosity of time and talent.

Is there some way you also can give of your time and talents? We sure would like to hear from you.

TO ERR IS HUMAN.....The FCC makes errors too! A ham in South Carolina and one in Kentucky, have been issued identical call letters - K4WU as a 1X2 preferred call sign. Wonder which will keep it or will the FCC cancel both and reissue new ones? It might be well to advise other 1X2 holders to be on the lookout. It might have happened before.

HAM RADIO IN U.S.S.R.

To become a ham in Russia, it is necessary to complete a basic electronics course, join a radio club, and take an exam. The applicant is then allowed to listen on amateur bands, log stations and be able to send and receive code at 10 wpm.

After six months as a SWL (short wave listener), a third class test may be taken. This allows 10 watts on 80, 40 and 10 meter phone. The second class license is harder and permits 40 watts and CW operation on most bands. Neither 160 or 6 meters is available to USSR amateurs. The first class ticket requires the operator to send and receive at 18 wpm, build, design and troubleshoot advanced radio gear.

Maximum power on all bands is 200 watts and all applicants must demonstrate an elementary knowledge of the English language.

profiles

This month's man of the hour is Lud Fasolino, K1LF, ex-WA1DRC. Lud lives in Wellesley, is married to Marie and they have three children, Ellen, Dan and Cathy. Lud has been licensed since 1965 and has worked himself up the ladder to the Extra class ticket. He has served as the Trustee for W1TKZ for a few years also.

Lud was born in Norwich, Conn., graduating from Norwich Free Academy. From here he furthered his education at Boston Univ. and got his masters degree at Tufts in Chemistry.

After graduation he served two years in the Army over in Germany and on discharge went out to seek his fortune in his special field. He worked for Dupont, Raytheon and for the past 8 years has worked for Polaroid as a Research Group Leader.

Lud is also talented in other fields other than chemistry and ham radio. He is an accomplished saxophone and clarinet player and did a bit of this while in the U.S. Army. He is also a skiier, likes to hunt and fish and when he isn't all that busy he spends a bit of his time on all the bands but mostly around 3800 on 75 meters where he works a bit of local and DX QSO's. He also does about 10% of his hamming in the CW mode(Bless him!). In other words, he

PROFILES.....Cont'd.

is a well rounded version of Mr. Ham and a credit to the club.

Lud has served, in addition to being a station Trustee, as President of the club, and for years has been one of the stalwart members of the 2 meter AM net the club has conducted.

Lud's gear is a Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter, a Hammarlund HQ 145 receiver, a Heath SB200 linear amplifier and for his mobile work, he uses a SWAN 350 transceiver. He has a TA-33 Jr. three element beam and two inverted Vee's for 80 and 40 meter work so he can really get around the low bands.

Lud still has to be christened into the 2 meter FM band but at present, doesn't do too much thinking about this area. We do hope to hear him on there some time though as it is an exciting band to keep up with the local gossip of the area. But, that is Lud's decision to make but one thing is sure, he has been a credit to the club over the years. We are fortunate to have him as one of our members. Next time you see him at a meeting, go over and introduce yourself, he will be happy to meet you.

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Late FOR SALE: TR4C Drake transceiver in mint condition complete with power supply and manual. Best offer within reason. Call Harold Alman WA1TKD at 533-8904.

At the moment we are advertising the Collins KWM2 transceiver for sale in the Want Ad magazine. Once sold we intend to upgrade the club station transceiver at a minimum cost to the club. If any of you are interested in buying it, the price is advertised at $650 dollars which includes the power supply and manual.

At the second meeting in October we are be setting up our plans for the Natick Mall Message Fair and will be securing a list of operators to man the equipment. The dates of this activity will be from December 5th through December 10th. During the weekdays we will commence operations at 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM and on Saturday the 10th, we will be there from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM. So you can see that we will be pretty busy throughout the operation and your help will be needed. It will also help sharpen your operating skills in the handling and routing of traffic through the NTS (National Traffic System). Last year we passed 908 pieces of Christmas traffic in the four days we operated from the Mall.

Incidentally, if you should want to use the NTS for a message of your own, the correct name, address and phone number of the party receiving your message is almost a must for certainty of delivery. Quite often I get a message for the Boston area only to find that the party doesn't have any telephone listing which necessitates a delay in final delivery of the message.

All of which brings us up to that time to send our 73's, 88's to the gals, and 99's (God Bless) to all. We will be on the lookout at the next meeting for you. While on the subject of 99's, if you are working a German station and he sends his 55's, he is also saying God Bless. Amen.

See you all at the next meeting.

Jim Hatherley, WA1TBY
Editor